

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 11 of First Extraordinary Session

By Hargett

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend University of Memphis senior basketball player, Jermaine Ousley.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is proud to specially recognize basketball players who work hard, make significant contributions to the success of their teams, and serve as excellent role models for our youth; and

WHEREAS, University of Memphis senior Jermaine Ousley is clearly one such notable person; and

WHEREAS, a strong and physical player inside, Jermaine first drew the attention of roundball pundits when he was a star at Tyler Junior College, where he helped to lead his team to an exemplary two-year record of 47-19; and

WHEREAS, for Tyler, he averaged 13.7 points per game and 9.6 points rebounds and led the team in blocked shots (36) and steals (46); and

WHEREAS, his exceptional hoops prowess was recognized when he was named the preseason junior college basketball player of the year by *Dick Vitale's College Basketball Magazine* in 1996 and was ranked as the top junior college power forward by *Future Stars Magazine* in 1997. As a freshman, he was honored as a member of first team All-Conference, All-Region and All-State Tournament teams; and

WHEREAS, he signed to play his final two collegiate seasons at the University of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, despite suffering an injury during his junior season, Jermaine played in all 29 games, led the Tigers in dunks (25) and blocked shots (32), had eight double-figure rebounding games and 14 double-figure scoring games, shot 23 of 45 (51%) from the field in his final seven games and scored 14 of his 16 points in the second half against Tulane to play a key role in the Tigers' victory; and

WHEREAS, as a senior starter, he averaged 6 points and 5.1 rebounds per game, was fifth in the league in blocked shots (1.54 per game) and playing an important role in the UNC-Wilmington, Northeast Louisiana, Arkansas Pine-Bluff, Vanderbilt, Ole Miss, Tulane, Houston, and University of Birmingham games; and

WHEREAS, by blocking 75 shots in just two seasons, this fine leaper finished his superb college career tenth in blocked shots in the storied University of Memphis basketball history; and

WHEREAS, Jermaine is the son of Deborah Ousley; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to honor and commend Jermaine Ousley; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and commend Jermaine Ousley and wish him well in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.